

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A sewing machine comprising: an arm including a vertical portion and a horizontal portion having at least one sewing needle mounted thereon;

a bed extending in parallel to said horizontal portion of said arm under said horizontal portion;

two first rails extending in parallel to said bed in the neighborhood of the sidea side portion of said vertical portion of said arm, each first rail comprising a proximate end and a distal end relative to said vertical portion of said arm;

first carriages adapted to slide on said first rails, respectively, each first carriage comprising a proximate end and a distal end relative to said vertical portion of said arm;

a second rail connected to the distal ends of said first carriages and perpendicular to said first rails, the distance between said two first rails is shorter than or equal to the to a length of said second rail;

a second carriage adapted to slide on said second rail;

a embroidery frame unit mounted on a portion of said second carriage furthest from said vertical portion of said arm and outboard to said first carriages; on the side portion of said second rail located far from said vertical portion of said arm;

wherein said first carriages are located on one side of said second rail, and said embroidery frame unit is located on the other side of said second rail

wherein said first carriages are each an elongate member disposed in a same direction as said first rails, each of said first carriages is configured to slide on a corresponding one of said first rails; and

wherein the distal ends of said first carriages are configured to extend beyond the distal ends of said first rails by a distance substantially equal to a length of said first carriages.

2. (Canceled).
3. (Previously Presented) A sewing machine according to claim 1, wherein said first rails are arranged in the neighborhood of said bed.
4. (Previously Presented) A sewing machine according to claim 1, wherein said arm has a unilateral open structure.
5. (Previously Presented) A sewing machine according to claim 1, wherein said arm and said bed are formed integrally.
6. (Previously Presented) A sewing machine according to claim 1, wherein said second rail includes a slide support unit adapted to support said second rail slidably in the same direction as said first carriages.
7. (Original) A sewing machine according to claim 6, further comprising a third rail arranged on said bed for said sliding support unit.
8. (Original) A sewing machine comprising: an arm including a vertical portion and a horizontal portion having at least one sewing needle mounted thereon; a bed extending in parallel to said horizontal portion of said arm under said horizontal portion; two first rails extending in parallel to said bed in the neighborhood of the side portion of said vertical portion of said arm; first carriages adapted to slide on said first rails, respectively; and a second rail connected to said first carriages and perpendicular to said first rails, said second rail being longer than the distance between said two first rails; a second carriage adapted to slide on said second rail; and a embroidery frame unit mounted on said second carriage on the side portion of said second rail located far from said vertical portion of said arm; wherein said second rail is separable alone or in combination with said second carriage and/or said embroidery frame unit.

9. (New) A sewing machine according to claim 1, wherein said second rail is separable alone or in combination with said second carriage and/or said embroidery frame unit.